

S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

# Nanaimo Tae Kwon Do Club News & Updates

## Bottle Drive Results

As many of you know we hosted a bottle drive in the month of April to help the club to cover the rising operation cost. This is mainly occurring due to declining funding from the government. We solely rely on the government support and membership fees to cover the whole operation cost. And even though we have not met our goal, we have raised amazing **\$873.68 in total**. We wish to recognize and acknowledge top contributors to the event. They are:

1. **Samantha Maughan - \$232.45**
2. **Cooper Firomski - \$163.60**
3. **Jessica Valchar - \$102.70**

**Thank you for all the hard work  
and participation everyone!**

**Next Bottle Drive in September!!!**



## Message from the President

It is hard to believe that summer is almost here. Families, children, club members are all excited about the upcoming summer break. Master Steve will also get well-deserved break as we start with the summer schedule on July 1. Don't forget classes are happening only Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

I also want to share that our own Master Steve is celebrating a beautiful milestone in his life by celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. On behalf of the club we want to thank him for all these years of his commitment and dedication towards teaching and promoting traditional martial art of Tae Kwon Do in the Nanaimo community. We wish him all the best and many more years to come!

## Save the Date!

### Belt Test

**June 12**

Belt grading and family Potluck & BBQ at Costin Hall in Lantzville.

### Summer Schedule

**July 1-Sept.6**

Classes: **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**  
Kids 6:00 PM - 7:00PM  
Adults 7:00PM - 8:30PM

### Bottle Drive

**September 17**

Next Fundraising Event





## SUMMER FAMILY POTLUCK & BBQ Belt Grading - June 12, 2016

Lantzville Costin Hall @ 1:00-6:30PM

We all work very hard for the past few months and the time has arrived for yet another belt test. What a great opportunity to measure the progress of the skills we practiced. Grand Master Woo Kim will be attending so let's show him our abilities. Please be on time so you can warm up before the test. Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office. Master Steve will confirm details regarding the actual belt test in the coming week. Open to all members and their families. You don't need to grade to join us!

**Family Potluck & BBQ**  
Happening right after grading



### What to Expect?

Only good time, fun and good food!!!

We have decided to arrange a BBQ cooked by your very own **executive board!** Each person can purchase a **meal ticket either in advance (at the office) or on the day of grading.** You can bring a dish (salads, deserts anything you wish to share)

Extra goodies, raffles, games and 50/50 will also be available so bring lots of loonies and we'll raise some extra funds for the club whilst having a fun afternoon with the family.

Bring your instruments and join us to sing along. We want to see what other talents you have!

Meal tickets will be available shortly. Please email-requesting number of tickets or pop in to the office and someone will help you.

See you all on June 12<sup>th</sup>.



## From The History of the Club



**BRICK BREAKER** / Nanaimo's Steve Large is expected to show off his martial arts skills Saturday at the B.C. Tae Kwon Do championships at Malaspina Gymnasium.



In the spring of 1988, an International Taekwondo school in Nanaimo had lost their instructor. The school desperately searched for a new coach. At that time the club existed in a small two-story schoolhouse in Harewood near Vancouver Island University. Master Steve (at that time a second degree black belt) happened to be at the right time and the right place and soon began teaching full time. It was a bit of a challenge to get the members to switch over to the World Taekwondo Federation style. However, the core members were strong and everyone pulled together to make it work. The club started with only six members and within a year expanded to about seventy people. The club was then moved into the Beban Park Sports Complex where they spent the next few years in development and getting stronger. It wasn't long before the club was facing another challenge. Due to a restructuring in the Beban Park Complex the club was forced to find a new area for our dojang.

It was hard to find an available building because most of the areas were taken up by small business, excessively expensive, or were undeveloped and in need of a lot of capital investment. Through the club own networking they came upon a building that was available at a reasonable rate. Once again the members of the club pulled together to renovate an area above an electrical supply company that would serve as the new dojang. It was great for club unity as everyone pitched in to make our dream a reality. The club has been at this location for over 20 years now. The club has been faced with many ups and downs. To get over many obstacles was only possible thanks to the commitment of Master Steve Large, club members, numerous assistants/trainers, various executive members and of course families who continue to support this amazing martial art. May 2016 marked the **27th anniversary** of the Woo Kim Nanaimo Taekwondo School.



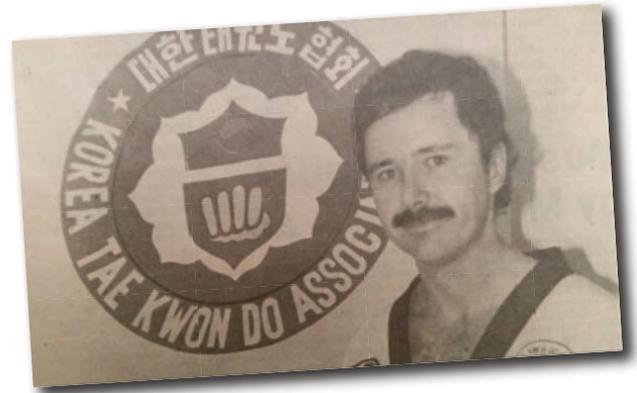
It is important to mention and recognize various accomplishments of the club and its members over the years of existence. Just to name a few:

- Participation in numerous provincial and national tournaments
- Hosting Local and Provincial Tournament (1996) in Nanaimo
- Training and developing multiple provincial, national and international stars such as Jamie Baker, Ruth Rowe, Michelle Carpenter, Harry Sese and Jeffrey Cromack.

## Interview with Master Steve

### Little less know facts...

- Grandparents served at the Buckingham palace before arriving to Canada
- Born in Germany to Canadian parents on American base Wiesbaden
- Master Steve's father served in the air force and got stationed in Comox; therefore, the family moved from East to West
- Master Steve is avid wildlife photographer; feel free to check out his website [www.larges.ca](http://www.larges.ca)



### Why Taekwondo?

Master Steve started with karate – Butokukan for six months while studying in Vancouver. After return to the island, Courtney, there was no other club besides Courtney Recreation Association offering tae kwon do. Master Steve trained under Grand Master Woo Kim for eight years before moving to Nanaimo due to job opportunities.

### What do you enjoy about coaching?

“I like to see the process of developing skills, coordination, flexibility and self-confidence of every member. At the same time it is a psychological challenge for me. I develop awareness and ability to deal with other people. It helps me to develop my character. The more experience I gain the better teacher I become. Coaching eventually makes me stronger.”

### Where do you see the club going in the next five years?

“It all depends on the membership. Taekwondo is part of my life and everything seems working right now. My wife and son are supportive; the executive board is great. I would like to explore competition poomsae as it seems gaining more popularity in WTF. Also I have to think that I am not getting any younger and I am feeling aches and pains. So start thinking about the next stage will have to become part of my planning.”



## Birthday Corner

Happy Birthday to all club members celebrating their big day in June, July and August.



### JUNE

Reece Mason  
Calum Mason  
Josef Valchar

### JULY

Amy Baker  
Master Steve Large

### AUGUST

Dave Dinh  
Olyn Yuan  
Seamus Smith

### T-SHIRT SALE

We will also be selling Nanaimo Tae Kwon Do t-shirts in preparation for the long hot summer. Anyone wishing to purchase a T-shirt will need to pre-pay at the office in advance before we place the order.

**WISHING EVERYONE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!**

Keep in mind that we are open TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS over the summer months.

